

THE BELL RINGER



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MONTGOMERY BELL ACADEMY

APRIL 20, 1992

Hail and Farewell!

Alex Rogers

After twenty-three years of meritorious service, Dr. Michael Drake, assistant headmaster and AP American History teacher, will leave Montgomery Bell Academy to become headmaster of the Westfield School in Perry, Georgia.

Dr. Drake's decision to take a new position is no reflection on M.B.A. but instead shows his wish to determine if he can meet the challenge of being a headmaster.

As headmaster, his duties will be different from those at M.B.A. in that his direct responsibilities will include fund raising, being the ultimate arbiter of school policies, and taking a more active role in the recruitment of new students.

When asked about what types of goals he will set for himself as headmaster, Dr. Drake responded that while he has his own agenda that he wishes to follow, he wants to get a feeling for the community's (Perry's) opinions.

He has already talked to community leaders and

knows that one of his primary concerns will be reworking the curriculum of the high school.

A second, though certainly not less important, goal consists of earning certification by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

Dr. Drake's most memorable moment was his induction into Totomoi.

Another benefit of trying to earn accreditation would be that the school would initiate a self-evaluation similar to the one initiated by M.B.A. during the 1990-1991 school year.

Surveys such as these are valuable instruments for the headmaster to use when mapping out the course for a school.

Dr. Drake thinks that by

trying to gain certification the collateral benefits would include many ideas that he could use in his "blueprints" for enhancing Westfield's curriculum.

Certainly, Dr. Drake's experiences at M.B.A. will be of value to him in his new role as headmaster. *The Bell Ringer* recently had an opportunity to talk with Dr. Drake about what social and academic changes he has seen take place at M.B.A. during his years there.

When Dr. Drake first came to M.B.A., he was phased not in the least by an all-boys school since his high school and college had single-sex classes. What did, however, give him pause was that M.B.A. boys were socially more mature than he expected.

According to Dr. Drake, over the years this relative level of maturity has continued to rise. For instance, this year's senior class, compared to his first class at M.B.A., has an even greater level of social maturity.

This fact, however, is a



Photo by Justin Crosslin

Though Dr. Drake is leaving M.B.A. to become a headmaster, his true love is teaching

mixed blessing. Dr. Drake maintains that a high level of social maturity forces students to confront many more issues than their counterparts in his first classes making it more difficult to be a teenager today than it was twenty-three years ago.

This trend of social maturity relates not only to the seniors but also to the lower classes.

Dr. Drake finds it unfortunate that such weighty concerns as drugs and alcohol are critical for even the freshmen.

The changes that Dr. Drake has observed in students' academic life at M.B.A. are more subtle than the difference in social maturity. He observes that any difference in academic cal-

ibre of M.B.A. students during his tenure are minute.

He does assert, however, that expectations placed on the students have indeed changed. Since the problems facing students have increased, teachers are perhaps more sympathetic now to conflicts than they were twenty-three years ago.

As assistant headmaster, Dr. Drake has had many memorable moments as well as accomplished many things for the school.

When asked what he is most proud of, he replied that three things come to mind: his founding of the Modern European History program, his role in the hiring of Mr. Herrington and Mr. Womack, and the fact that he has never re-



Dr. Drake has been part of M.B.A.'s lifeblood for 23 years.

Patrick Wilson Library
Montgomery Bell Academy
Nashville, Tennessee

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NEWS

Hail and Farewell continued from page 1



Dr. Drake's elfin magic has made the school a better place



To top it all off, he's not afraid to get down and dirty.

laxed his standards.

His most memorable moment was his induction into Totomoi. Dr. Drake relates that he had been the advisor for Totomoi yet was not a member.

When the time for the induction ceremony came, Dr. Drake was unaware that he was going to be inducted; in fact, he had remained on stage with the class directly below those eligible for membership.

When the tapping finally arrived, he was completely flabbergasted.

M.B.A. now enters its 125th year of excellence and for almost 20% of those years Dr. Drake has been a part of this school. It is with both happiness for Dr. Drake yet regret at his departure that *The Bell Ringer* bids **Hail and Farewell** to one of Montgomery Bell Academy's greatest assets - Dr. Michael Drake.

Dan Herring, Char, History Department -

"Dr. Drake is a great lecture in the tradition of T. B. Macqualey and a great historian in the tradition of Thomas Jefferson, but his greatest quality is that he puts people first."

Robert Pruitt, Biology teacher, Cross Country coach -

"The most remarkable thing about Dr. Drake is that everyone thinks they're his best friend, and, therefore, we will all miss him as we would our best friend."

Mr. Womack, Art History and Art Studio teacher -

With his departure, Dr. Drake, whose commitment to M.B.A. has known no limits, leaves behind a legacy that includes his genuine concern for others, his passionate love for learning, and his sense of humor to keep it all in perspective.

To the Future Senior Class

Bo Sundius

Now is the time for change and I would like to begin by asking the upcoming senior class if they have any legitimate requests or concerns for next year. Please, if you have any new ideas of how I may help improve the class, tell me. Just write your suggestions on a sheet of paper and give it to me next week. If the suggestion is truly reasonable, I will bring it to the administration's attention in

my capacity as president-elect of the senior class.

But do not procrastinate, think ahead, and bring it to my attention with enough time that I can get it appropriated through the right channels and have it be in full measure by the time we start our senior year. With the ideas I already have and your suggestions, I believe the 1992-1993 school year can be fantastic.

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Billy Strasser: M.B.A.'s National representative

Lee Hampton

Last December Billy Strasser took a once in a lifetime trip to Chicago. Billy was one of 74 delegates from Tennessee to go to 4-H National Congress, an annual extravaganza that brings together the best 4-H participants in the nation for a week.

Fifty members of 4-H clubs compete against each other in many different categories for \$1,000 scholarships to the college of their choice. However, before getting to the national level Billy had to beat 2,248 other people

to win at the state level and secure a berth to the National Congress.

This is not the first 4-H award or trip that Billy has received. He has won local competitions that include public speaking, art posters, demonstrations, and Davidson County Outstanding 4-H member. He has also won the County's highest honor, the Vol State Award.

Billy has participated in the Labo International exchange program, lived in Japan with a Japanese family for

three weeks, been to the National 4-H Conference in Cherry Chase, Maryland, visited West Virginia's state conference, and has gone to the Tennessee State Roundup three times.

4-H is a nationwide youth organization that has 174,778 members in Tennessee alone. It is sponsored through a mix of government funds and private donations from companies and industries.

The Bell Ringer salutes the lacrosse team for their victories in Hilton Head and South Bend.

FEATURES

Nineteen M.B.A. Students Brave a New World in Europe

BehdadShahsavari and Flagg Youngblood

It all started Thursday, March 12, when 19 young, virile MBA students made a mad dash to the airport after school. Possessed by that jubilation of youth which somehow arises with the onset of spring, we youngsters milled about excitedly awaiting our departure for Brussels. Joining us were 7 older and wiser heads to prevent our youthful inexperience from causing too much damage to Europe.

Among this number were Mrs. Garriot, Mrs. Steele, Mrs. Bowers, Mrs. O'Connell, Mrs. Lyles (formerly on the MBA administrative staff), and our brave leader Dr. Gaffney.

Our trans-Atlantic flight was inebriating though uneventful. We were met at Brussels by our tour guide Susan, who lead us on our circuit through Germany, Switzerland, France, and back to Brussels.

Brussels is a beautiful and historic city built around its original square. This square houses the ancient guild halls which created the trade that made Brussels a great commercial center.

The palace of the king, similar to French chateaux, is finely adorned with many statues and much gold leafing. On our tour of the city, we also saw the Atomium, a heroic monument built in the shape of an iron atom for a 50's World Expo. Resting in the heart of the city, we found it easy to sleep after a very full 30 hour day.

Our next stop was Germany, which we found intoxicating though not as nifty as gay Paris or picturesque Lucerne. We first paused to tour the impressive gothic structure of Cologne cathedral. Built to represent heaven on earth, Cologne utilizes light

and space to create the impression of a holy presence. Great spires, ornate decorations, and lofty vaults establish a grand interior unequaled by any other created by man.

The Rhine river provided the transportation to our next resting place in the charming little town of Heidleberg. There we danced atop the

Mr Riemenschneider, therefore, was accused of being in league with the devil and his arm was crushed to prevent the perpetuation of his sin.

largest cask of wine in the world, the Great Vat.

Holding 55,000 gallons of fine brew, it is large enough to accommodate small parties, not to mention large thirsts. Heidleburg castle, the home of this cask, offered us a magnificent view of the river valley and the town itself.

After our second day of touring in Heidleburg, we journeyed to the idyllic and tranquil town of Rothenberg. The old town wall still stands, encircling many of the original houses and guild halls from the cities' foundation.

The focal point of the tour was the Church of St. Jacob, which housed the incredible altarpiece of wood by Tilman Riemenschneider. This piece was considered so beautiful that no mortal hand could have created it. Mr Riemenschneider, therefore, was accused of being in league with the devil and his arm was crushed to prevent the perpetuation of his sin.

The remainder of our stay in Germany was spent on a bus tour down the famed castle road, where many an-

cient towers still stand. This final pastoral highway lead us into the Black Forest and on into the small border town of Triberg.

We had time to shop and eat our final German meal before our last stop in that country at the falls of Schaufhausen. This waterfall, the largest in Germany, is overlooked by a Dutch castle designed by the famous painter Albrecht Durer.

We next crossed over much beautiful scenery as we came into Switzerland, passing through Zurich and touring Lucerne that same day. Among the sights in Lucerne were the Picasso Museum, the ancient covered bridges, and the many squares and fountains which have been restored to their original beauty.

An awe inspiring view was provided for our eyes the second day in Lucerne atop the heights of Pilatus, a nearby mountain. Over 7,500 feet in height, it is said to

Our final activity before leaving Lucerne was a visit to a Swiss beerhall where all enjoyed the customary forms of dancing and musical performance, such as horn blowing and yodeling.

house the ghost of Pontius Pilot. Legend holds that his ghost roamed the snowy peaks and pointed a baleful finger at travelers, dooming them to death.

Finally, the locals interred his body as part of a pact for the rights to use the mountain safely. Though the pact has since been broken, we did not spot the wandering spirit, so as to whether Pilot

still resides there, we cannot say. The view, however, was bespelling enough for our mortal spirits.

Our final activity before leaving Lucerne was a visit to a Swiss beerhall where all enjoyed the customary forms of dancing and musical performance, such as horn blowing and yodeling.

Our giddiness at some of the more beautiful sights in town, however, lead to offers of lifelong commitments about which we could only dream. And Lucerne is a beautiful city where marriages are proposed as readily as flowers are given.

The true capital of romance, however, is our final stop, Paris. Our days and nights were filled with activity as we toured the city before stopping at the more famous attractions. Notre-Dame, St. Chapelle, and the Louvre were among the many stops, as were the Orsee Museum of 19th century art, the Pompidou Center of modern art, and the Cluny medieval museum.

The Eiffel tower, however, was closed for elevator repairs during our stay. Finding the several thousand stair climb both illegal and insane, we contented ourselves with gazing at it's monumental heights.

Versailles was yet another place of artistic beauty which our group had the good fortune to visit. The gardens were just beginning to bud, and the grounds were bustling with the thousands of groundskeepers necessary to maintain such a monumental landscape.

We saw the several junior-sized chateaux that Louis XIII through Louis XV used for their romantic tristes away from the court's formality up the hill at Versailles. We even stopped to see the small grotto

where Marie Antoinette hid after her slight altercation with a small group of grumpy peasants.

Our last evening in Paris consisted of a boat tour taking us past many of the major sights and around Notre Dame on the Seine. Paris is at all hours a beautiful spectacle, teeming with life and entertainment.

Perhaps the best lesson learned on our trip was a keen desire to return and fully explore the countries we have but merely sampled. A piece of parting advice from Behdad: "When in Paris, eat at the Silver Tower rather than at the Green Star."

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OPINIONS

A Critical Look at History Room Policies

Andrew Vahrenkamp

The wonderful establishment known as the History Room has long been recognized as the salvation of students, allowing calm conversation, relaxed reading, and civilized chess games in a quiet, peaceful atmosphere. Unfortunately, recent outbreaks of autocracy in the History Room have caused student backlash. The way in which the room has been run by both students and librarians has been shocking, and innocent students have been made victims of the onslaught.

Currently, the rules concerning the History Room include the following: a limit of ten people in the room at one time; a ban on publications in its confines; the internal regulation of the room by a student (commonly referred to as the keyholder), who cannot for any reason whatsoever leave the room during the period in which he has checked out the key; a law forcing one of the

tables to be used for studying and the other for chess; and the constant intervention of the librarians to make sure the rules are obeyed to the letter.

These rules are somewhat autocratic. First of all, the limitations placed on the number of people in the room have angered some students. They argue that "a certain percentage of the rules and regulations imposed on us in the History Room have, shall we say, less than a well-founded basis."

Yet another area of distress is the fact that newspapers and magazines may not be used in the History Room. Despite this ban, students still attempt to smuggle the publications in, only to be scolded by the librarians and occasionally made to leave the room. When asked about this embargo, Mrs. Simmons responded by saying that the papers are for everyone to read, and they [the publications] would be left in the His-

tory room if allowed in there so that no one else can read them.

The inability of the keyholder to maintain order properly is yet another large area of disgruntlement. Often too many people are in the room, leading to conflicts with Mrs. Simmons or Mrs. Miller. An especially gruesome incident involving a personal conflict between a sophomore keyholder and a senior resulted in the closing of the History Room indefinitely during eighth periods. Instead of punishing the two guilty people, the entire eighth period class was made to suffer, a measure unwarranted, unnecessary, and unfair.

Perhaps the largest area of student displeasure is the fact that only chess can be played in the room, and, additionally, only one table may be used for games. Supposedly, one of the tables is to be reserved for people who are studying, but very few people

study in the History Room. Furthermore, when other games, such as a Japanese variant of chess, are being played, Mrs. Simmons throws the guilty parties out to the trophy room. When chess is being played on the floor, she makes up some mediocre excuse, saying that it is just not right. Clearly, this is a sensitive issue, and a seventh period boycott has been placed on the room by particularly angered upperclassmen.

However, just complaining about the issue is hardly enough. A solution must be developed. Many people have asked that the number be increased to fifteen because no one studies in the History Room anyway. A junior suggests, "If people want to study, they should go outside to the library." Other students demand that all restrictions be lifted. I, consequently, suggest the following compromise: 1) Increase the number

of people allowed in the room to twelve with freshmen being removed first, followed by sophomores, juniors, and lastly seniors, if the situation arises where too many people are in the room; 2) Allow people to use newspapers and magazines in the History Room with the condition that they pledge to return them to the main library; 3) Transcribe precisely what the duties and powers of the keyholder are so that future disturbances may be avoided; 4) Allow the use of the studying table for chess, checkers, and chess-like variants (Feudal, Shogi, Go, etc.) if no one is using it for studying at the time when the game begins.

The History Room is a valuable resource and we should respect it as such. Both students and faculty need to assure that its use is fair, safe, and controlled properly lest it once again become history.

To Achieve or Not To

Scott Hande

Achieve

Recently, I read an article concerning the anti-achievement mentality of modern American school children, specifically within the black community. It stated that many intelligent black students who are capable of succeeding at school are pressured by their peers not to achieve.

They are accused of trying to become "white" just because they want to do well at school. This phenomenon is particularly distressing because the black population has fought for so long to be able to get an equal education as whites, and now it is facing an unforeseen and surprisingly formidable opponent: themselves. The anti-achievement mentality is by no means restricted to black students. It is so widespread that every student at any American school faces it. The situation is better at MBA than at most schools, but even here we find the attitude that

to do well in school is "uncool."

We begin to label our smart comrades "nerds" as far back as in elementary school. Many students who are naturally gifted fail to utilize their gift because they think (probably correctly) that getting A's might compromise their image. They don't study and don't try in school. They are not merely lazy. They are just willing victims of an anti-achievement atmosphere. Everyone is a victim at one time or another. I remember receiving an unusually high grade back in junior high. My first instinct was to hide the paper so no one would see it and label me as "nerd."

I've been on the other end of the spectrum as well. When someone gets a higher grade than I do on a test, my first reaction is to say, "You're such a nerd." So I know its difficult always to respect the success of others. Its against our mindset as

twentieth century Americans. Do you suppose that in Japan they make fun of successful students? I doubt it. No wonder Americans today rank something like twelfth in the world in their quality of education. We are ingrained with the idea that to try in school is "nerdy."

MBA is different from most high schools in that it is the anti-achievement attitude is much less prevalent. Most students are here because they want to learn and want to be successful later in life. At MBA, there is a competitive spirit that allows students to try hard at their studies without having to worry much about being labelled for doing so. However, we can improve here too by respecting the achievements of others and continuing the competitive attitude that is vital to an achievement mentality.

Live Long and Prosper!

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ENTERTAINMENT

M.B.A.'s Foray Into the Theater: What I Did Last Summer

Robert Howell

As another branch appears on the MBA tree of opportunity, a revelation of talents as well as interesting intellectual psyches occurs. A.R. Gurney's play *What I Did Last Summer* was recently performed by a group of USN, Brentwood High, Harpeth Hall, and MBA students, demonstrating an important side of the schools. The choice of the script and the enthusiasm in which it was executed is very interesting on a psychological level. The story is about a 14-year old boy named Charlie who is struggling through the tortuous roads of adolescence. While his father is at war, Charlie must cope with his problems without a male with whom to relate. The difficulties are only mollified by his acquaintance with a porish

named Anna, called the Pig Woman. Anna offers an outlet for Charlie's creativity and provides him with a summer job. Despite harsh criticism from his friend Ted and his family, Charlie becomes very close to Anna and lets her shape his life. The plot so continues until Anna is run out of town by various authorities.

The play communicates a clear message of adolescent angst to which most high school students can relate, with the focus on the relations with parents who repress non-conformity, creativity, and a broadening of intellectual parameters. In the case of Charlie, his mother represses him, though she experienced the same situation 20 years earlier. This hypocritical position reflects the

moral inconsistency of provincial-minded parents. This problem is obviously present in the lives of most adolescents, which is evidenced by the fact that in performing the play, the cast itself was a victim of such tensions! It is a situation to which parents and teachers alike should be sensitive.

On a second level, the play indicates the dilemma faced by youth when the choice must be made between the two extremes: society and art, represented by the mother and Anna respectively. Grace, the mother, is a conservative, hypocritically moral and straight person. She lives in the mainstream of society, and forbids her son from diverging from that path. Anna is a radical, who questions all authority and at-

tacks common concepts in the vein of a Nietzschean hero. She is a tomboy who places hedonistic pleasure over morals. With her sexual vegetables and anarchistic beliefs, she is the antithesis of Grace. It is at this crossroads that Charlie finds himself, as do most adolescents. Unlike most youth, however in the end Charlie seems to find the happy medium as a member of society who creates as a playwright, serving as a fruition of both Anna and Grace's desires.

Despite obstacles, the play was executed brilliantly. Shade Murray made his talent as a director obvious, while Todd Anderson demonstrated his many talents by both playing Charlie and being assistant director. David Howerton played the

part of Ted, Charlie's best friend, serving as effective comic relief nearly killing several elderly members of the audience with shock/laughter. As for the female contingent, Holley Phillips is perfectly cast as Anna, playing the part with accuracy, as Erin Jones plays her opposite Grace, using confused yet innocent mannerisms to impart the character's personality well. Sarah Phillips played Charlie's older sister Elsie demonstrating a 19 year-old girl's mentality, while Margaret Entman successfully plays Charlie's girlfriend Bonny, despite the fact that most characters with whom she interacts are actually not present. The talent of all was well displayed, forming a message to which all can easily relate.

Back in Black: Metallica

Todd Anderson

On March 9 at 8 p.m. Metallica hit Municipal Auditorium. Metallica's tours have the reputation of being unstoppable forces, and the current "Wherever I May Roam" tour is no exception. Metallica's technical aspect is amazing on this tour. The stage is diamond-shaped with microphones set all around the stage. A pit for VIP's and selected fans is in the center of the stage. Two drum kits rise out of the floor and move along the front edges of the stage.

Metallica in their middle age (almost 30) seem to be living by the motto of "shake it off." No longer the death-obsessed band of the early 80's nor the politically-centered band of the late 80's, the 90's Metallica is more personable. Metallica's program, for example, is loaded with quotations from various sources such as the unlikely stone-thrower Nikki Sixx of Motley Crue who predicts the early demise of Metallica (Didn't Motley Crue just have a breakup of sorts?). Metallica's humor has odd manifestations. James Hetfield, vocalist/rhythm guitarist, introduced "Sad But True" as "a happy song." In the intro to "Am I Evil?," Ja-

son Newstead, bassist, began playing "Don't Be Cruel" by Elvis.

Metallica's show was crushing, three hours of their brand of thrash. They opened with the expected "Enter Sandman," but they surprised me by playing "Creeping Death" (off Ride The Lightning) second and "Harvester of Sorrow" (off ...And Justice For All) third. Metallica is definitely not selling out to their new-found acceptance/audience. They only played about one-third of their most recent album and not very much at all from Justice. Even though James stated in an interview that, "Some of the stuff on the first album is hard for me to sing now, lines like 'Bang your head against the stage,'" Metallica played the song containing that very line, "Whiplash" (Jason took the vocals). Their encore (more like their second set) included the unexpected and frightening "Last Caress" along with "Seek and Destroy," another song off the first album. They closed the night with an amazingly tight version of "Battery." Metallica's unity and non-conformity has earned them the right to kick back a little, and they are.

The Judybats

Patrick Wilson, Larry Montgomery
Bell Academy
Nashville, Tennessee

Eric Greenwood

I was first introduced to The Judybats late one Sunday night on MTV's 120 Minutes. As I was led two hours into the future of alternative music by Sir Dave Kendall, my ears perked up when I heard that The Judybats hailed from Knoxville, Tennessee. I proceeded to watch the video for "Native Son", the title track off The Judybats debut release, and was enthralled by the quirkiness of this sextet which stood apart from all of the rave bands from England that usually dominate the show.

Nashville's only alternative, 91 Rock, began heavily rotating the song "Daylight" this past fall, and the luscious melody wouldn't leave my head, so I was forced to purchase *Native Son*. The witty, homespun Southern humor of the band is undeniable. Lead vocalist Jeff Heiskell's lyrics are lifted straight from his off-beat diary, and match his sarcastic yet addictive vocals with vigor and wit.

Such originality is rare in music these days. The Judybats' acoustic-based psychedelic pop reveals a

world view that is truly left of center as seen in tracks such as "Convalescing in Spain" and "In Like with You".

At the end of February as I was perusing through my local Tower Records, I was taken aback when I saw that The Judybats second effort, *Down in the Shacks Where the Satellite Dishes Grow*, had been released. I quickly purchased a copy and rushed home to absorb the intoxicating melodies.

More excerpts from Jeff Heiskell's diary reveal frustrations with New York City, girlfriend turned lesbian, and co-dependent schizophrenic relationships in tracks such as "She's Sad She Said", "Margot Known As Missy", and "Lullaby-Weren't We Wild".

The Judybats played 328 Performance Hall on March 8 with opening acts The Low Road and Paleface. The Low Road's country-coffee house folk didn't float my boat, but Paleface's anti-everything attitude proved to be a perfect opening act. Paleface's one man acoustic set consisted of obscure (truly bizarre) poetry and "story telling", attacking

the government in "Trouble in the Country" and "Cops".

The Judybats stormed through their flawless set with a confidently tight sound. Jeff Heiskell's voice is even more impressive in concert than on tape. During the pause in "Convalescing in Spain", the band burst into an hysterical 30 second version of Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit". I was blown away by the band's ability to reproduce the unprecedented sound of the new material live. The encore consisted of Rocky Erikson's "She Lives (in a Time of Her Own)", and the early 80's classic "Cars" by Gary Numan. The Judybats represent what intelligent pop music is all about.

From the Annals

One goes safest on the middle path.

He who benefits from the crime did it.

THE MASSEY CHRONICLE

Rifling Through the Air

MBA's first air rifle team has finished its November to March season. The team, which practiced every afternoon in the cafeteria, used Daisy Model 853 air rifles. Compressed air propels skirted pellets with solid noses and hollow tails that flatten impact were used.

The rifle team would like to thank Retired Lieutenant Leo R. Lujan for his unwavering commitment to making the team much more competitive and skilled.

He is the founder of the National Guard Junior Marksmanship Program and the editor of the marksmanship textbook used all over the country.

In February, the 1976 Olympic gold medal winner for rifle shooting, Lanny Bassham, visited MBA to present a motivational talk to the air rifle team.

In discussing the importance of focusing concentration in order to accomplish goals, he spoke about the conscious and subconscious minds working together to influence actions.

Especially interesting were his reminiscences about his experiences during the 1972 and 1976 Olympics and the intense pressure he felt during the competitions. His comments were fascinating and were enjoyed by all of the team members.



photo by Justin Crodin



photo by Justin Crodin

The Microbe soccer team

Looking Anew at M.B.A.

Mr. Demong

Sometime soon, preferably on one of those gorgeous spring days when we don't feel like lingering in the Ball Building basement, let's take a few minutes to take a good look at the new building under construction and think of what it could mean to us.

The MBA we return to next fall will be significantly different: familiar in so many ways, new in ways we can barely imagine. Fine new facilities will mean added opportunities for everyone at MBA.

As we know for the arts there will be more areas to

create, to display, to practice, and to perform. How will that affect us? Will we get involved? Why? How? To what extent?

In other words, the new building represents a commitment to make MBA even better, a commitment by many adults who have given generously to provide us with a wonderful new facility.

Perhaps, as that commitment takes form shape before our eyes, we can imagine another commitment takes form within our minds.

Next fall we'll return to a campus that's "new and

improved". Perhaps this spring would be a good time to think how we can return to campus "new and improved" ourselves.

As much as MBA is a wonderful place with great people in an honorable tradition, MBA is a place for us to explore as we grow.

So as we gaze at the new building, perhaps it's a good time to take a moment to reflect: how we can best take advantage of the opportunities our school offers. Perhaps it's a good time to begin to set some goals for the future.

A Distinguished Eagle

Al Fuller

7th grader Philip Zimmerman recently received the distinguished Walter R. Courtenay Eagle Scout Award.

This award is given to the two most outstanding Eagle Scouts of their class. Philip competed for this award against 210 other Eagles.

MBA was well represented with at least six Eagles at the ceremonies on February 27.

Congratulations to Philip and the other Eagles on their achievement of boy Scouting's highest rank.



Skipworth salutes Scott Handel! Scott is vice-president of the Honor Council, opinions editor for *The Bell Ringer*, and a member of the varsity cross-country, basketball, and soccer teams.

Skipworth

EXCEPTIONAL PORTRAITURE



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Go Big Red!



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SPORTS

Batter Up! Big Red Baseball on the Move

Will Berry

After last season's district championship and regional semifinal loss, the 1992 edition of the varsity baseball team hopes to match the success of its predecessors.

With a strong class of seniors returning, combined with an up-and-coming junior class, and two freshmen phenoms, the Big Red has great potential.

On the mound, R.A. "Lap Dog" Dickey returns along with Dave "Wild Child" Sifford and Steven "Wonderboy" Bess.

Behind the plate catchers Ben Nimmo, Mike Anderson,

and David Howerton will share time, with Anderson and Howerton also playing third base. Dickey will play short and Trent Batey will fill in capably when Dickey is on the mound.

Helping to turn the double play at second base are John Schlansker and Greg Holyfield. Three-year starter Brent Miller will again play first, backed up by Parkes Owen and Steven Bess.

The Outfield is anchored by centerfielder Glenn "Tiger" Harris, backed up by Mark Fuqua. In right, Shad "Wild Man" Weaver will start, backed by Sifford. Pat

"GQ" Hale and Will "The Thrill" Berry will play left.

Under the leadership of Coaches Forehand, Forehand, and Woolsey, the team hopes to develop strong unity and to adopt an aggressive, exciting style of baseball. After the annual spring break trip to Cocoa Beach, the team will open its season with a rash of games the following week.

The team would appreciate all support and looks forward to a renewal of the "Right Field Rowdies." Come watch the baseball team hit and pitch its way to a district title.

A Dash of Entertainment
Paisley Orange

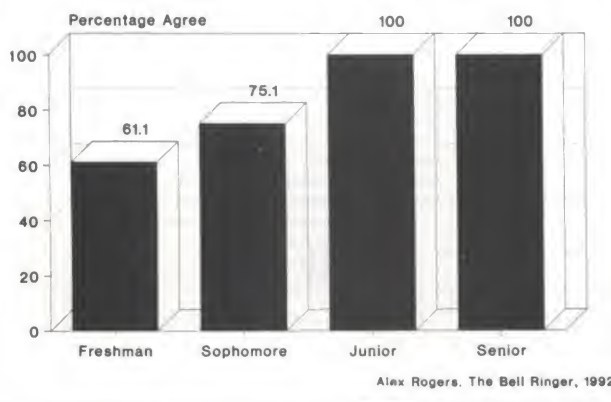
Sean Strauss

Paisley Orange played gigs and talent shows at schools and churches gaining attention and popularity from their audience every time they played. Playing mostly cover songs, Paisley eventually started writing their own songs. The first song they wrote, "Lady Rainbow," quickly gained popularity. They continued to write powerful music. After many requests, Paisley Orange finally got themselves on tape. Using a 4-track, they recorded their song "Hey Mother," a song about broken love. The song has an upbeat sound similar to their influence "Drivin' n' Cryin'" with steel drum and pleasing background vocals. "Hey Mother" could not compare to the originality of "Rainbow."

After a few more gigs and a few more songs and a larger audience, Paisley finally got into a recording studio to record 7 more songs. Fail Not

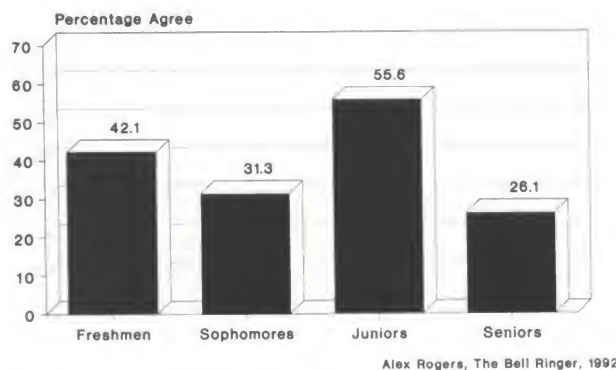
Our Feast opens with the cheerful "No Man's Land." This song would make even the most uptight people dance with everything they had. "Given" is a slow, moody song about the desire to live life on your own, the way you want. However, it proves differently with its sudden change of pace into a bluesy, rhythmic motion of short bursts of drums and bass. The last song on the first side, "Lady Rainbow," is probably the best song a band of teenagers could write. "Rainbow," with its repetition of the chorus and steel drum solo, can literally bring someone from deep depression to a state of ecstasy. The psychedelic song "Now Run" features virtual vocal whispers to pleading wails.

Paisley Orange has their tapes for sale. Fail Not Our Feast is an incredible debut and listening to it is an amazing experience.

Is Alcohol Widely Used
At MBA?Coach Thoni
named the Region 6
Coach-of-the-Year!

Skipworth salutes Garrett Kyle! Garrett is the Editor-in-chief of *The Bell* and is a two year member of cum laude.

Skipworth EXCEPTIONAL PORTRAITURE

Are Drugs Widely Used
At MBA?

MBA LAX !!

John Wesley

The Montgomery Bell Academy lacrosse team, now in its third year of existence under the leadership of Coach Jon Baer, has readily proved its local and regional dominance and has received national recognition.

The team emerged from three months of training and practicing to defeat the defending state champions, the McCallie school, 13-7 early in the season. Local victories include wins over Brentwood, the Nashville Club Team (aka, Father Ryan), and the University School of Nashville. Additionally, MBA played and tied the Nashville Men's Team, a traveling team composed of accomplished adult players.

The team's debut on the national scene took place over spring break, when Coaches Baer and Goold led sixteen members of the team to Hilton Head for a spring tournament. The other five teams at the palmetto island were from the east coast, including two teams from New Jersey and two teams from Massachusetts. The fifth team was an independent, made up of players from various schools.

Even though the MBA squad lacked the numbers of players of the other teams and a few of its starting

members, the Big Red defeated the state runners-up from New Jersey, WMA, and finished the spring outing with an impressive record of

MBA then travelled to South Bend, Indiana, to play in the St. Joseph's Invitational Tournament. After a lovely drive through



3-3-1.

Later, the team visited Louisville to compete against two squads from Cincinnati. After a tough defeat to Moeller High School, MBA responded by pounding the Cincinnati High School Lacrosse Team.

the lacrosse program.

Most recently, the team played McCallie and the Memphis University School, beating them 10-8 and 11-3 respectively.

Over the weekend of April 25-26, the school will host an invitational lacrosse tournament for several regional teams, including a few from the St. Louis area. After that competition, MBA will play in the Tennessee Scholastic Lacrosse Association state tournament, and later in the Mid-American Lacrosse Conference championship, to be held in St. Louis.

The team thanks all the parents and students who have faithfully supported the Big Red and Jeff Goold for his time and advice. For those who have not yet seen a game, come out and support Big Red LAX.

Patrick Wilson Library
Montgomery Bell Academy
Nashville, Tennessee

Spring Soccer in Season

John Wallace

After months of preparation with a fall conditioning program and a winter practice session, the soccer team was anxious to start the 1992 regular season and test their mettle against rival schools from across the state and city.

After three games, their record stands at 1-0-2. Their first two games resulted in 1-1 and a 3-3 draws at M.U.S. and McGavock respectively before an explosion in a 7-0 victory versus Overton.

In the Overton game Andy Barrett scored 3 goals; Andy Russ scored 2, and Ben Curtis and Rob Woelhelter each contributed one.

Both Head Coach Lanier and senior Warren Connally remarked that the Overton game showed excellent team effort, and Coach Lanier said that "the team needs to continue [this type of team play] in order to do well

down the stretch." Coach Lanier also remarked that although the team is playing fairly well for this point in the season, the team needs to improve markedly in the areas of both defense and endurance.

The team this year has many players returning from last season which should aid the Big Red in enduring another grueling schedule. When asked about the senior leadership on the team, Coach Lanier replied, "While our seniors play well on the field, they could be more vocal as leaders."

When looking at this year's schedule, perennial rivals Hillsboro and Father Ryan again stand out as teams that should prove to be the Big Red's toughest tests within the district. The soccer team looks forward to a good season and encourages student body support at its games.

Hey Now!!!

A Note from your Sports Editor, John Wallace...

After a year-long hiatus, the sports staff of the Bell Ringer, has once again decided to sponsor a spring bike race on Monday, May 4.

In the past, this race has been known to settle many heated disputes over who is the better athlete.

The race consists of fifty laps around the MBA track. Teams of four people divide the distance among themselves in any way desired (that is, if they can bike fifty

laps).

The coveted Tour de Tommy Owen Trophy will be awarded to the winners.

Specialty teams such as four people from a specific organization or team are encouraged; additionally, the field will be opened this year to entries from Harpeth Hall or St. Cecilia.

Team entries should be turned in as soon as possible to a member of *The Bell Ringer* staff.

Go Big Red !!

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